STATE REPRESENTATIVE ELIZABETH M. COGGS





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REP. COGGS QUESTIONS THE REPUBLICANS CHOICE ON EXTREME SOCIAL AGENDA OVER ECONOMIC GROWTH AND SAFETY

MADISON – Rep. Elizabeth Coggs (D-Milwaukee) issued the following statement on the Assembly vote to approve concealed carry:

"Once again, Assembly Republicans have shown that they would rather divide our state and advance their extremist social agenda instead of creating jobs and growing our economy. We should be arming displaced workers with job training and arming students with a high-quality education and not arming people with more weapons. This bill will lead to a rise in violent crime in Milwaukee County and fail to make our citizens any safer."

"Allowing guns in schools, universities, churches, parks, playground, public transportation and bars is simply a public disaster. How can you allow people to consume alcohol while carrying a gun?" Rep. Coggs said. "We need to prioritize arming displaced workers with job training, arming students with a high-quality education and arming our local governments with the resources they need to protect the public; not with guns."

"I am for employment and the social safety nets. I believe that our government has a responsibility to the people that it is supposed to serve." Rep. Coggs said "I believe in prevention programs and early intervention in people's lives; I believe in government assisting people when they need a bridge over trouble waters."

State Representative Coggs agrees with Senator Tim Cullen (D-Janesville) demanding that state officials free up \$89 million in federal unemployment benefits for more than 10,000 jobless Wisconsin workers. Senator Cullen want the state's Unemployment Insurance Advisory Council to send lawmakers a bill that would allow Wisconsin to offer 13 more weeks of federally funded extended unemployment benefits to jobless workers, or up to 86 weeks. The benefits ended on April 16.

As Governor Scott Walker and the Republicans attack the poor and middle class with cutting funding for public schools; raising taxes on working families and seniors; creating a waiting list for unemployed before they can collect benefits; cutting \$500 million from Medicaid programs; now they want to arm them with guns. Republicans continue to spend their time making it a priority to advance a social agenda when they should be creating jobs and growing out economy.